

Dear Players and Parents,

My name is Marc Barry and I have the privilege of being named the KGHA U11 AA Head Coach for the 2023/2024 season. I have been coaching girls hockey in some capacity for the past 12 years and coached players at many ages from Jr Fun (Initiation) through to U18, mostly at the competitive level. I have three daughters who are KGHA players and part of the competitive stream (at U18 and U11). Last year I was the head coach of the U11 B competitive team.

This season I am looking for a team of girls who are passionate and dedicated. I value hard work and effort and I intend to elevate and challenge the players on every aspect of the game. Players should come expecting that they will be pushed on conditioning, endurance and stamina. There will be fun activities included but the overall focus will be on developing these players for the top tiers of hockey.

My coaching goals and objectives focus around creating a positive learning environment focusing on progression and development for the AA level. A safe environment will be created providing positive reinforcement and encouragement to motivate players to work hard, take chances and try new things. I believe in an open and transparent environment for all players and coaches. Team cohesion is very important, "we work as a team, we win as a team".

## Commitment

The U11 AA team is expected to have 4 to 5 mandatory hockey commitments per week consisting of both on and off-ice sessions. These sessions will start immediately after tryouts conclude.

The priority expectation on this team is family, school, and hockey. The commitment to the team should supersede other sports and activities. If a player has desire to play other sports, or has other commitments, throughout the hockey season I encourage you to consider one of the other levels which may have less time commitment.

The expectation is that every player and family is fully committed to bringing a positive attitude, strong work ethic, and a high level of compete.

For Playdowns & Playoffs no call-ups are allowed so please keep this in mind when booking family holidays in February & March. At the AA level it is very hard to play games without teammates and so the expectation is that all players are in attendance.

## Player Expectations

All players at the U11 AA level are expected to be at all on-ice and off-ice sessions. Exceptions being family emergencies or school issues. At AA we expect the highest amount of commitment.

Arrival time is an hour before games and warmup starts 50 minutes before game time. At practices, the girls are expected to be there at least 30 minutes before and ready for the coaches to come in the room to talk five minutes before we step on the ice.

## Team Fees

The estimated team fees will be around \$2400 per player (depending on fundraising/sponsorship and qualifying for Provincials). These fees are in addition to the KGHA registration fees. More information, and the team budget, will be discussed at a parent meeting that will take place once the team has been formed.

## Tournaments

Our tournament schedule will consist of 5 tournaments plus Provincials (should the team qualify). Listed below are the current tournament plans. Attendance at tournaments is expected.

- October 12-15, 2023 Etobicoke Pink the Rink Tournament (All KGHA Competitive Teams Attend)
- November 17-19, 2023 KGHA Tournament (All KGHA Competitive Teams Attend)
- December 8-10, 2023 Gloucester Kickin' Ice in the Capital Competitive Tournament
- January 5-8, 2024 Belleville Bearcats New Year Classic Tournament
- February 2-4, 2024 Nepean 42nd Annual Paint It Purple Tournament
- \*April 11-14, 2024 Provincial Championship in Toronto (\*team must qualify)

## Tryouts

For the tryouts, the evaluation process will start as soon as players get to the rink (pre-practice, bench, and post-practice sportsmanship). For on-ice performance, we will be looking for individuals who demonstrate strong skating ability, hard work, coachability, positional play and other important elements. Players will be assessed by the coaching staff as well as objective evaluators.

As per KGHA policy, feedback will only be given to the players in the final release and will be given, if requested, by the VP of Competitive. ([vpcompetitive@kgha.ca](mailto:vpcompetitive@kgha.ca))

I am very much looking forward to the Rangers 2023/2024 U11 AA season and would like to wish good luck to all the players participating in the tryouts.

Marc Barry  
Head Coach Kanata Rangers U11 AA  
[mdbarry@gmail.com](mailto:mdbarry@gmail.com)